

The World

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POLICE CONTROL OF EXCURSIONS.

The police investigation of excursion boat conditions is likely to yield good results from the correction of minor abuses which have come into existence through laxity of inspection and been tolerated and continued unchecked. This exercise of the city's power of control over excursion traffic is timely and should be made as effective as the circumstances and the authority warrant.

The reports of the police captains to the Commissioner show the existence of many aspects of danger—narrow stairways, storerooms for oil and paint unprotected against fire, an inadequate equipment of life-boats, defective guard-rails and piers unsuitable for the safe accommodation of crowds. The police find other boats besides the Slocum manned by inferior crews—a "shiftless lot," in the words of Capt. Hussy, sure to prove inefficient in emergency and through their incapacity permitting the care of passengers on the dock to devolve on the police. This reliance of the management on the police to remedy its own deficiency of precautions has been a matter of frequent observation by passengers.

The various captains' reports contain sufficient recommendations for a very radical improvement of the excursion boat service. Those of the changes suggested which some within the city's jurisdiction should be immediately put into effect, to the increased security of passengers and the lessened risk of another horror.

THE NEED OF MORE SCHOOLS.

Accommodations for the "rapidly augmenting school population" are, as the Mayor emphatically says, "a matter which admits of no postponement," and the Board of Education can most effectively silence the criticisms directed against it by doing everything within its power to hasten provision for school facilities for the thousands who otherwise will lack them at the opening of the fall term.

This means a vacation season of considerable work for the board; it is the best use to which the time can be put. Since Jan. 1 contracts have been let which will provide for 27,700 additional sittings. The Building Committee is reported to be ready to make contracts for other schools with a seating capacity of 29,850 "as soon as the sites have been selected." Every week of delay in the selection of the sites will lay the board open to more "criticism" of the same character for the schoolless children for whom their present procrastination will be largely responsible.

Conviction of an "Ambulance Chaser."—The conviction in General Sessions of an "ambulance chasing" attorney on charges of grand larceny in a damage suit, while individually deserved, should serve as a salutary rebuke for wider application to a most objectionable abuse of the law. The exposure of the terms of the contract between lawyer and client, by which the latter was to receive half of the \$200 damages recovered, shows the profitable returns of this form of guerrilla legal practice.

BELATED MATRIMONY.

Some revolutionary remarks on marriage were made to a graduating high school class at Wilmington, Del., by Gen. Warfield, of Maryland, who said:

"Don't do the foolish thing of getting married early in life. I have three daughters and will not give any of them my consent to marry before she is twenty-eight."

Such a parental restriction should justify an eloquent—an eloquent such as Senator Benton's daughter made in her teens with the young lieutenant Fremont. It has not been proved with statistical authority that runaway matches turn out failures; while there is much testimony from Gretna Green parsons to the contrary.

But it is a demonstrated fact that early marriages are more conducive to connubial happiness than late. It has been reported that this season's brides, at least many of social prominence, have averaged younger than those of recent years, and this tendency away from belated matrimony must be regarded as a hopeful augury. The injunction to wait till twenty-eight before marrying is an exhibition of parental authority which marriageable maidens will probably look upon as cruel in the extreme and deserving defiance.

EARLY AT THE PUBLIC CRIB.

The revelation that there were 1,200 applicants for the sixteen inspectorships in the Department of Licenses will excite the wonder even of those familiar with the ratio of demand to supply in government positions. The fact that more than one-half of the applicants were college graduates is still more surprising.

A college graduate who begins life by seeking sustenance at the public crib is surely not making the best use of his talents. Whether he is jeopardizing his future usefulness to himself and the community depends on the stuff that is in him. Acquaintance with active work of the kind for which the inspectors are detailed would doubtless round out four years of theory with one of excellent practice by contact with elements of city life from which much improving knowledge may be acquired.

But the danger lies in getting the habit—in looking to "government" for the livelihood which after a few years of experience will not equal what should be expected of a college education.

A year of struggle and self-denial would do as much. Wiser are they who let office alone.

AGAIN THE GRADE CROSSING.

Another life has been lost at a grade crossing, the accident occurring on the Long Island tracks at Sunnyside. It was only a boy's life and worth only a paragraph in the news. But it jogs a lapsing memory in which the details of the Van Cortlandt tragedy were growing dim.

How long must the carnage continue before the conditions of danger are done away with? A locomotive picks off a victim here and runs down a vehicle there every few days the year through. "Minor news happenings" they are, but they make a formidable total at the year's end.

How big and how impressive must that total become before the grade crossings are abolished?

Noise and Street Closing.—Borough President Littleton's act in closing a Brooklyn street to oblige a mother whose child's life was in danger from the use of traffic was prompted by considerations which do him credit. The extension of the order to every block in Manhattan on which noise is endangering an individual's life would result in tying up most of the city.

If a Woman Had Dug the Subway

By
Nixola Greeley-Smith.



It was stated in yesterday's paper that when the Tammany contractors, Jack Murphy and Jim Gaffney, began digging the big tunnel on the Pennsylvania Railroad next week, there will be \$500 additional men handling picks and shovels in New York.

Handling them so that there will be more unseemly dirt heaps in our streets, more unwholesome disease germs in the air we breathe, more halting of traffic and bankruptcy of merchants who have the misfortune to live along its devious way—more of the horror of dirt and noise and confusion that has marked the digging of the Subway for the last two years—

Why?

For the simple reason that the contractors in charge of the great undertaking are men, and dirt and confusion are the enemies that man is powerless to rout.

Witness the helplessness of the ordinary man in the great household not infrequently colloquially termed spring cleaning, his more than childish inability to cope with a disordered dressing table or a tumbled bureau drawer.

But though dirt conquers man, it succumbs to the wielded broom handle, the brandished feather duster, the unresisting mop and mop of woman. The average woman's horror of dirt is only second to that she bears to snakes or mice or beetles. She would rather live in a clean cottage than a disordered palace unless she were allowed the privilege of putting things to rights.

Why then, should man, who either by nature or cultivation is absolutely unable to handle dirt, be allowed to raise commemorative monuments to it in New York streets and make mud pies in its most beautiful thoroughfares?

If a woman had had the Subway contract—and why not, since women are now delegates to national conventions, receivers of corporations and architects of million dollar hotels?—do you think for a minute New York streets would be in the deplorable condition they are to-day?

Not a bit of it! She would have gone at the great work just as if it had been one colossal spring cleaning, and a torn up street, a closed thoroughfare, would have produced just such anguish in her chaos-bating soul as a dust speck on the parlor mantle or a scratch on the dining room mahogany.

It has been the problem of this generation to harness the unused forces, to bring all wasted energies into the service of man.

And yet all this chaos-hunting, dirt-obliterating power of womankind has been allowed to waste itself in one little annual spring splurge, instead of being systematically directed to regenerating and beautifying the world. John B. McDonald, as any other man contractor would, absorbed in the ultimate aim, ignores the immediate dirt. Would a woman contractor be so lost to aesthetic feeling and civic pride? No indeed. If her eyes were turned to the chaos of Long Acre Square, she would bend all the energies of her soul and her entire force of pick and shovellers until it was spick and span.

To be sure, such sudden withdrawal of the working force might delay the completion of the road. But what then? John B. Parsons, Engineer of the Subway, is himself responsible for the statement that by the time the Subway is completed New York traffic will have grown to such extent that no material amelioration of its congested condition will be felt for over a few hours.

So what would a little additional delay matter? And in the meantime New York would be clean.

LETTERS, QUESTIONS, ANSWERS.

Saturday, Saturday.

To the Editor of The Evening World:
On what days did Feb. 6 and March 6, 1894, fall? L. V. S.

What Should He Do?
To the Editor of The Evening World:
Readers, what should a man do about his wife, who keeps under the influence of liquor almost every day in the week and cares little or nothing for her home and children? K.

Teach Children to Swim.
To the Editor of The Evening World:
I think it would be much better if teachers would give swimming lessons in the schools instead of basket-ball and other such games which children have no practical need for. Teach them to swim, and when such accidents happen as the Gen. Slocum disaster they will be capable of saving themselves from a watery grave. THOMAS J.

Pronunciation Queries.
To the Editor of The Evening World:
How should I pronounce "eau de cologne" and "decollete," also what are the meaning and pronunciation of the word "blaise"? MAY D.

The words are pronounced "o-deer-kolone," "day-cole-tay" and "blay-zay." "Blaise" implies satiety or lack of interest.

Colors of the Colleges.
To the Editor of The Evening World:
What colors have Yale, Princeton and Harvard? P. J. F.

Dark blue for Yale; orange and black for Princeton, and crimson for Harvard.

Legal Aid Society, 139 Broadway.
To the Editor of The Evening World:
A person owes me some money in wages. What is the cheapest way to force him to pay? I cannot afford to pay a lawyer. W. D.

The Great American GOOK, Gook-a-doodle-doo!

He Has His Idea About the Fourth of July Combination of Noise and Patriotism



JOHNNY FOURFLUSH Takes Miss Toodles to Dinner

And in Spite of Johnny's All-Round Cleverness the Crafty Waiter Gets \$2 the Best of Him



The Man Higher Up

By Martin Green.

Some of the Stunts the Bell-Girls May Be Called On to Do.

"SEE," said the Cigar Store Man, "that they have given the bell-boys in the Martha Washington Hotel the razoo and put a lot of bell-girls on the works."

"It may go all right," replied the Man Higher Up, "but if I was making book on the proposition I'd lay long odds that it will turn out to be a scream. The project of having girls to answer bells in a hotel patronized exclusively by women ought to scatter locks of hair and torn shirt waists all through the corridors of the building."

"Of course, I may be wrong. Perhaps they are making human nature over these times to fit conditions that allow women to have a hotel of their own. Anyhow, the manager is certainly a man of great bravery."

"Women guests in a hotel exclusively for women are sure to regard the hotel as their personal home. Each woman is just as certain that her room is her castle as she is certain that she will see an envelope in the key rack on the day her bill comes due. In this she is dead right."

"Women are more considerate of male servants than they are of female. They stand in more or less awe of a bell-boy with an overture to a crop of whiskers and a near-bass voice. When they want anything they ring for the boy, and after he delivers it they let him go on a straight business basis."

"They never think of asking a boy to sew buttons on their clothes, fix hooks and eyes in their shirt waists, put the trees in their shoes, wrap their hats in tissue paper, pack their trunks, hang up their evening gowns, heat curling irons, clean jewelry, take spots out of gloves with benzine, mend stockings or wash handkerchiefs. As sure as your face is on straight, that is what any woman guest will ask a bell-girl to do, and then is when the area of high pressure is due to call for storm signals."

"Why should a woman ask a female bell-hop to do things she wouldn't ask of a youth in uniform?" asked the Cigar Store Man.

"A woman who lives in women's hotels generally has no husband," replied the Man Higher Up. "Therefore she has no man to boss, because women never try to boss men other than husbands or brothers or sons-in-law. The advent of bell-girls gives her an opening for her natural bossy bent as wide as Central Park."

A Personal Grievance.



"I say, won't they let you go into long trousers?"—London Punch.

Dwarfs and Giants.

From Bangkok comes the interesting news that a new race of dwarfs has been discovered in Siam. They inhabit the Chayra province, on the Burmah frontier, and are a new mad race, not even possessing teeth, while all their domestic utensils are of bamboo. Their numbers are estimated at from 4,000 to 5,000.

The "Fudge" Idiotorial.

IDIOTORIAL PAGE OF THE EVENING FUDGE

Butter Your Wife's Feet
Then She Will Never Run Away.
We've Tried It on the Cat.
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away. He says she has a habit of deserting him on an average of ONCE A WEEK. The EDITOR of this paper (never deaf to the HEART-CRY of any of his hypertriphated family of readers), gallops to the rescue with the following SURE CURE for a runaway wife:
PUT BUTTER ON HER FEET!

When cats are brought to strange homes their feet are always buttered to prevent their running away. THE EVENING FUDGE has tried this experiment and it succeeded. THE CAT STAYED. And a cat that would stay in THE EVENING FUDGE office would linger lovingly in a BURNING TENEMENT.

BUTTER YOUR WIFE'S FEET every time she shows signs of deserting you! By the time she has gnawed off all the butter she will have lost her desire to desert. The only drawback to this plan is that butter costs 30 CENTS A POUND. Each pedal application will cost not less than 8 cents. If you are SURE your wife is worth 8 cents a week to you, and if you can afford it, TRY this plan. Otherwise USE AXLE GREASE. Oleomargarine is FORBIDDEN BY LAW.

And even if (after ALL this), your wife INSISTS on deserting you, remember the poet's deathless words: "TIS BUTTER TO HAVE LOVED AND LOST THAN NEVER TO HAVE LOST AT ALL!"